

MARVEL
ANNUAL

ATLANTIS ATTACKS

64 PAGES

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AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
23 • 1989
UK 50p

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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



SPIDEY AND THE
SHE-HULK
TACKLE THE
ABOMINATION!



PLUS THE
ORIGIN
OF THE AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN!

HOW SPIDEY'S
SPIDER-
SENSE
WORKS!

AND
AUNT
MAY
IN ACTION!

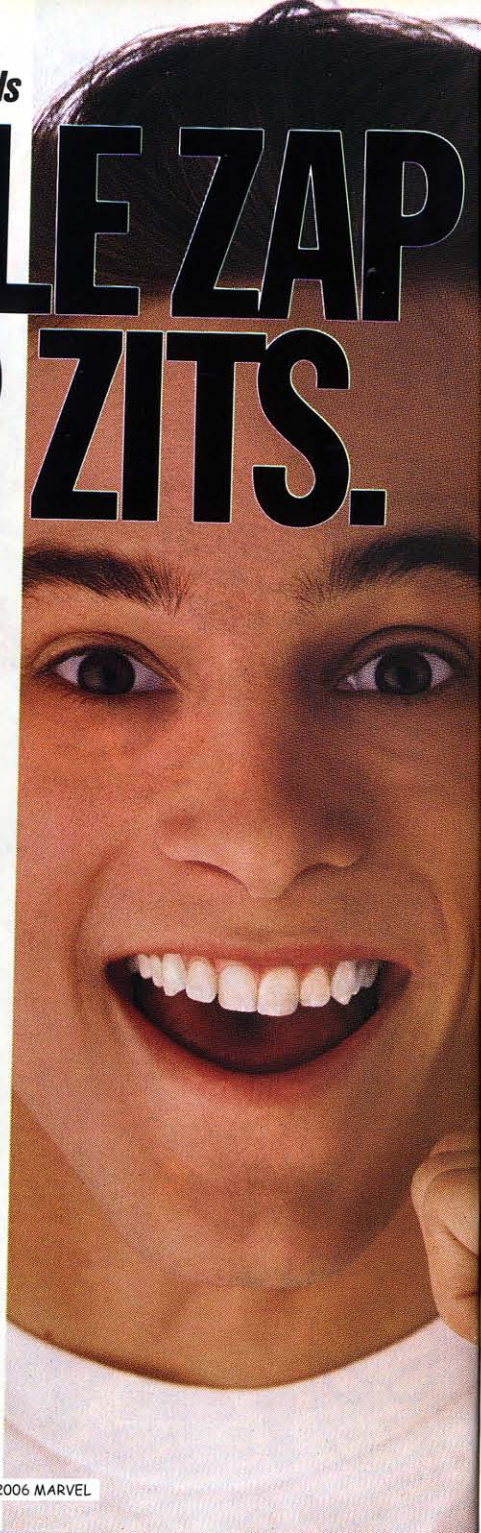
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ATLANTIS ATTACKS

chapter four

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

contents:

ABOMINATIONS	pg. 2
<i>By Gerry Conway, David Michelinie, Rob Liefeld, & Tim Dzon</i>	
MY SCIENCE PROJECT	pg.31
<i>By Gerry Conway, Mark Bagley, & Mike Exposito</i>	
SPIDER-MAN'S TOP 30 VILLAIN COUNTDOWN	pg.43
<i>By Fred Hembeck</i>	
SPIDEY VS. J.J.J.!	pg.47
<i>By Fred Hembeck</i>	
SPIDER-MAN'S UNCANNY SPIDER-SENSE	pg.52
<i>By Tom DeFalco, Ron Frenz, & Christopher Ivy</i>	
STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR	pg.55
<i>By Gerry Conway, Richard Rockwell, & Andy Mushynsky</i>	
SAGA OF THE SERPENT CROWN: CATAclysm	pg.58
<i>By Peter Sanderson, Mark Bagley, & Keith Williams</i>	



The story so far ...
As the attack by the Atlanteans and rebel Lemurians against the surface world continues, the Deviant High Priest, Ghaur, and Lemurian rebel leader, Llyra, settle on Magneto's Island in the Bermuda Triangle. With the first step of Ghaur's scheme to rebuild the sinister Serpent Crown already underway, the second step is quickly accomplished unwittingly by the X-MEN. Now, as Ghaur's plan to bring the Serpent God, Set, to Earth nears fruition, the third step begins ...

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STAN LEE PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

MAGNETO'S ISLAND: WHERE LORD GHAUR, HIGH PRIEST OF THE GENETICALLY UNSTABLE RACE OF DEVIANTS, REFLECTS...



THE SERPENT SOCIETY WAS SUCCESSFUL IN FINDING THE FOUR MYSTIC TALISMANS THEY WERE SENT TO FETCH-- *

-- AND HAVE BROUGHT THEM HERE TO ME!

* IN X-MEN ANNUAL # 13.-- J.S.

USING THEIR POWER, I SHALL RECONSTRUCT THE SERPENT CROWN, AND WITH IT PAVE THE WAY FOR THE GREAT GOD SET TO WALK THE EARTH ONCE MORE!



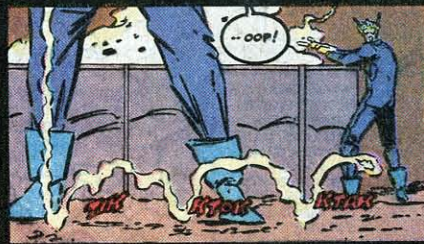
WHEN SET RULES, I SHALL SHARE IN HIS TRIUMPH: THE DOMINATION AND ULTIMATE DESTRUCTION, OF THIS PLANET!

ABOMINATIONS!

CONWAY MICHELINIE LIEFELD DZON BROCK/CURTIS, MIELCAREK/Williams PARKER WRIGHT SALICRUP DEFALCO
PLOT SCRIPT PENCILS INKS (PGS. 2-24) INKS (PGS. 25-30) LETTERS COLORS EDITOR EP IN CHIEF



THE TALISMANS HAVE BEEN HEATED TO THE PROPER MELTING TEMPERATURE, LORD GHAUR--



-- OOP!



FOOL! YOU'LL NOT MAKE SUCH A CLUMSY ERROR--



-- AGAIN!

M-MY BRAIN!

B-B-BURNING--!



EEEEYYAAAGGHH!



EVER THE DISCIPLINARIAN, EH, GHAUR?

LLYRA! MY ALLY! WHERE ARE YOU NOW?



IN A LEMURIAN AIRSHIP NEARING COLORADO.

YOU ANTICIPATE NO PROBLEMS?



NONE. WE'LL BE IN NEW YORK IN THREE HOURS. HAIL SET!



YES, OF COURSE.

HAIL SET.

HAIL? MAYBE IN COLORADO!

BUT IN NEW YORK CITY THE NEXT DAY, WHERE PETER PARKER -- CURRENTLY COSTUMED AS THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN -- SNAPS PHOTOGRAPHS OF DEPARTING WARSHIPS, THE WEATHER IS FINE!

NAVY'S BEEN ON ALERT EVER SINCE THAT LEMURIAN ATTACK FORCE TRIED TO GET THROUGH THE PANAMA CANAL! *

I MEAN, KATE CUSHING MAY BE A TERRIFIC CITY EDITOR, BUT SHE CAN ALSO BE A REAL PAIN!

"ALL YOU BRING US ARE SPIDER-MAN PHOTOS, PETER! DON'T YOU EVER GET BORED?"

SO WHY NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT!

MAYBE THESE PICS WILL STILE HER YAWNS!

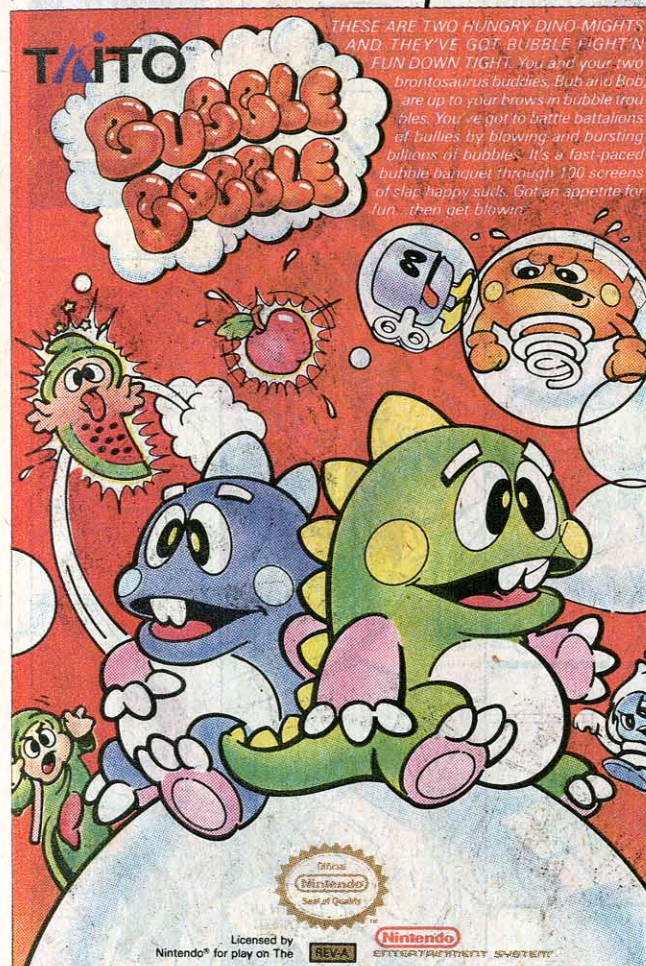
* IN IRON MAN ANNUAL #10--35.

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD BE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THE REASON THOSE SHIPS ARE GOING TO SEA, ABOUT WHETHER LEMURIA REALLY MEANS TO ATTACK THE UNITED STATES--OR IF THERE'S OTHER METHOD IN THEIR MADNESS!

BUT THAT'S SOMEONE ELSE'S WORRY. MINE IS GETTING THESE NEGATIVES TO--

BUBBLE BOBBLE IS DINO-MIGHT!

(FOR YOUR NINTENDO ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM.)



THESE ARE TWO HUNGRY DINO-MIGHTS AND THEY'VE GOT BUBBLE FIGHT'N FUN DOWN TIGHT. You and your two brontosaurus buddies, Bub and Bob, are up to your brows in bubble troubles. You've got to battle battalions of bullies by blowing and bursting billions of bubbles. It's a fast-paced bubble banquet through 100 screens of slap happy suds. Got an appetite for fun... then get blowin'.

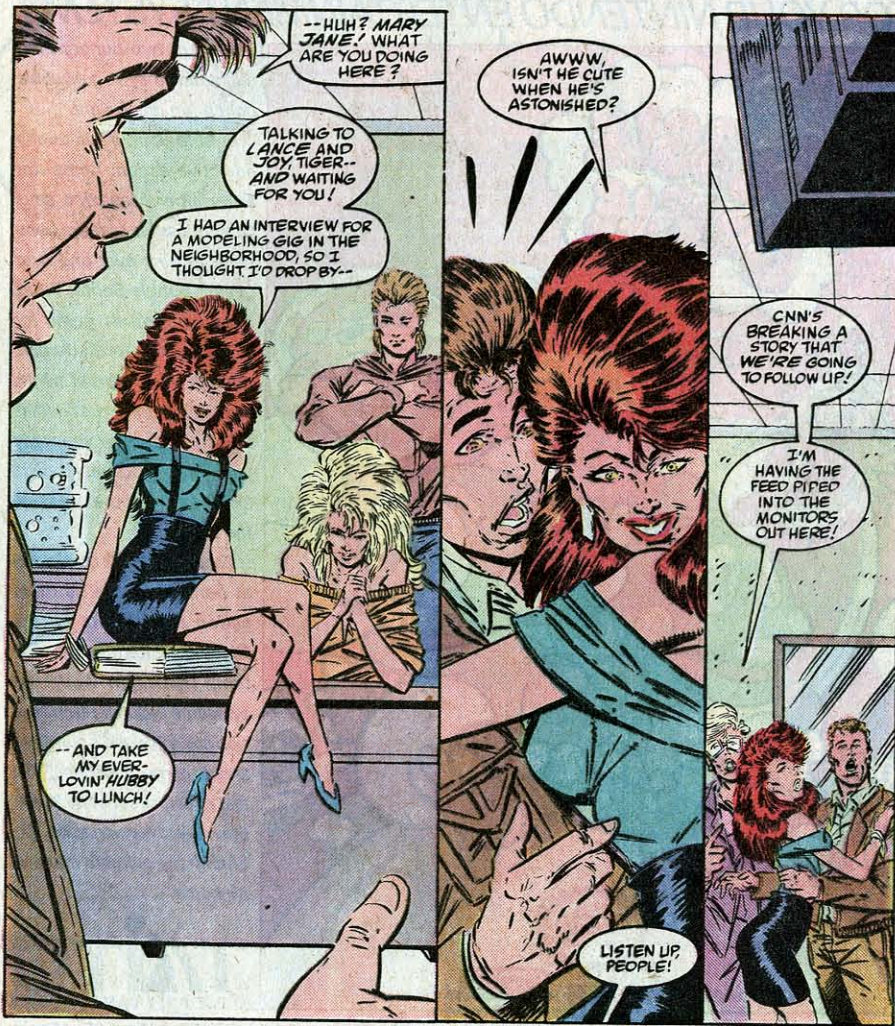
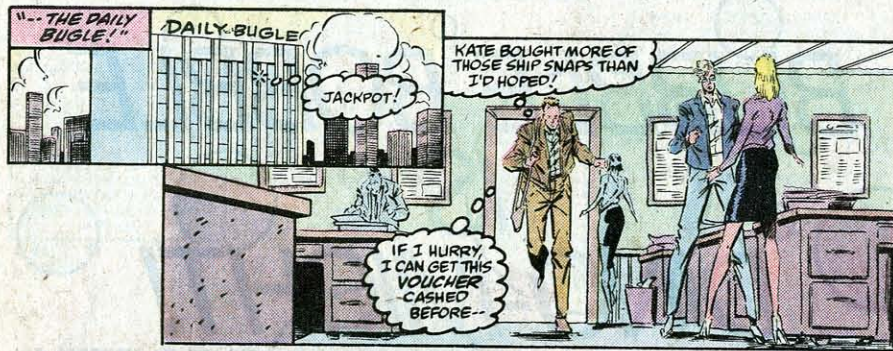
These are two hungry dino-mights and they've got bubble fight'n fun down tight.

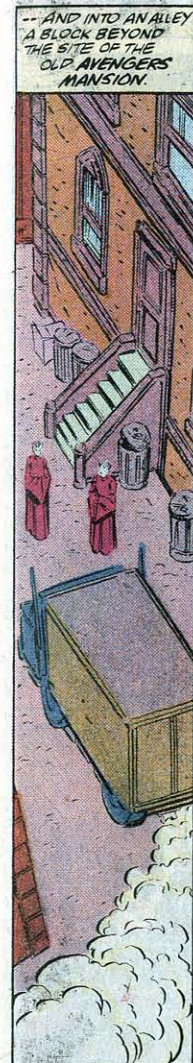
Bubble Bobble™ is totally addictive action. Computer Entertainer Magazine says "it's impossible to resist...you want to play over and over again." Bubble Bobble™ has been Europe's #1 game for over 3 months. You'll scramble through 100 screens of laughs as your brontosaurus buddies, Bub and Bob, blow you away with endless action. If you're lookin' for fun, these dudes are the ones.

For more arcade quality fun at home, grab Taito's other action packed hits for the Nintendo Entertainment System®: Operation Wolf®, the awesome prisoner rescue mission and the world's number 1 arcade game. Renegade™, the fast paced street-style Karate brawl. And coming soon, Sky Shark®, the arcade's meanest air battle.

TAITO
THE ONLY GAME IN TOWN.™

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DO IT, GHOUR! MAKE ME HUMAN! NOW!

SOON, TYRANNUS. BUT TO REMOVE YOU FROM THAT BODY--

-- WE NEED ANOTHER ESSENCE TO TAKE YOUR PLACE!



AND WHAT BETTER CHOICE THAN THE ORIGINAL ABOMINATION--

-- EMIL BLONSKY!



NO! I-I'M A HUMAN BEING! I DON'T WANT TO BE THAT MONSTER AGAIN!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS!



WE CAN.

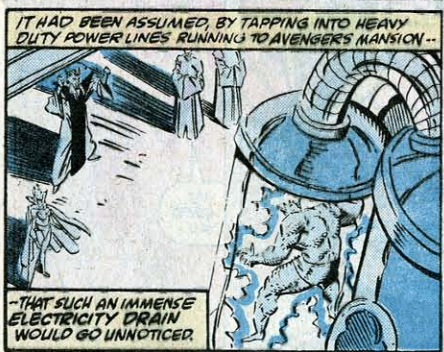


AND WILL!

A SINGLE TOUCH--



-- AND MASSIVE WAVES OF ARCAN E ENERGY COURSE THROUGH BODIES HUMAN AND OTHERWISE.



IT HAD BEEN ASSUMED, BY TAPPING INTO HEAVY DUTY POWER LINES RUNNING TO AVENGER'S MANSION--

-- THAT SUCH AN IMMENSE ELECTRICITY DRAIN WOULD GO UNNOTICED.



WHOOPS!



WHAT THE--?

STOP!

MARY JANE! LOOK!

I WISH WE COULD FINISH ONE LUNCH...!



THERE'S FIFTY BUCKS! DELIVER MY BRIEFCASE TO THE ADDRESS I GAVE YOU!

WHAT, NO TIP?



BE CAREFUL!

DON'T WORRY!

LET ME DO THAT!



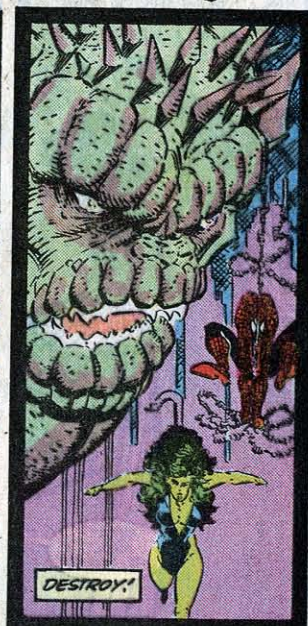
ENERGY SURGE LIKE THAT CAN ONLY MEAN TROUBLE!

THE KIND OF TROUBLE THAT CAN BE HANDED BEST BY THE SHE-HULK!



BETTER FIND SOME PLACE TO STASH MY CIVILIAN CLOTHES!

IT LOOKS LIKE KATE'S GOING TO BE GETTING SOME MORE SPIDER-MAN PICS WHETHER SHE WANTS THEM OR NOT!



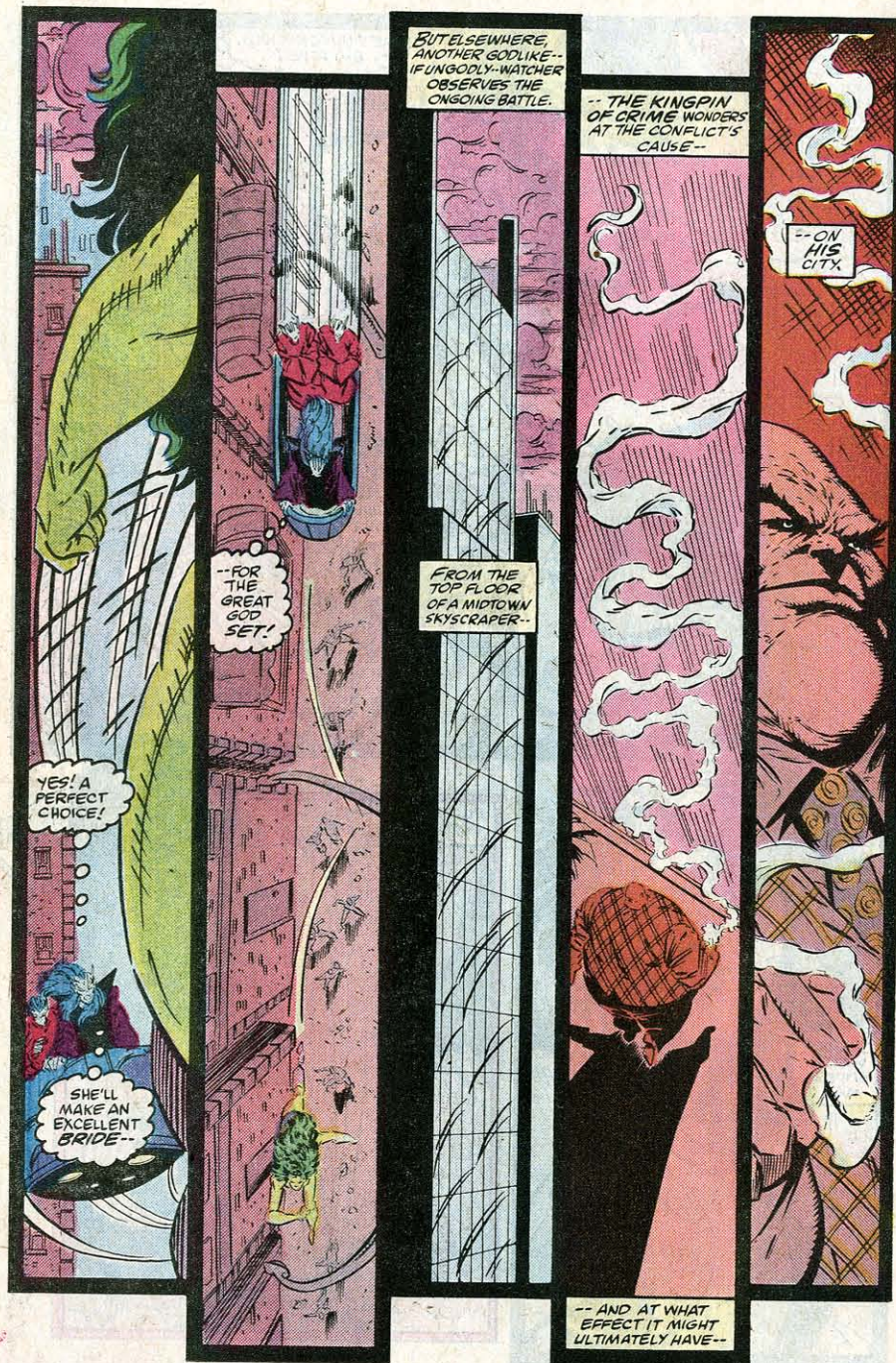




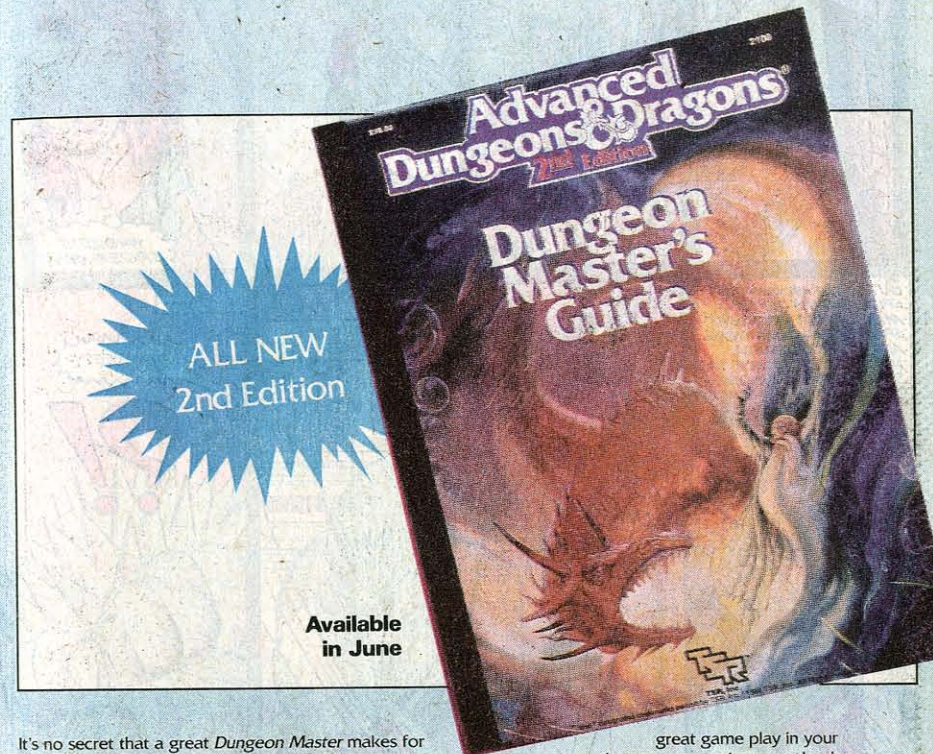
18



19



TRUE LEADERS GO BY THE BOOK



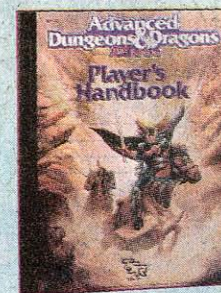
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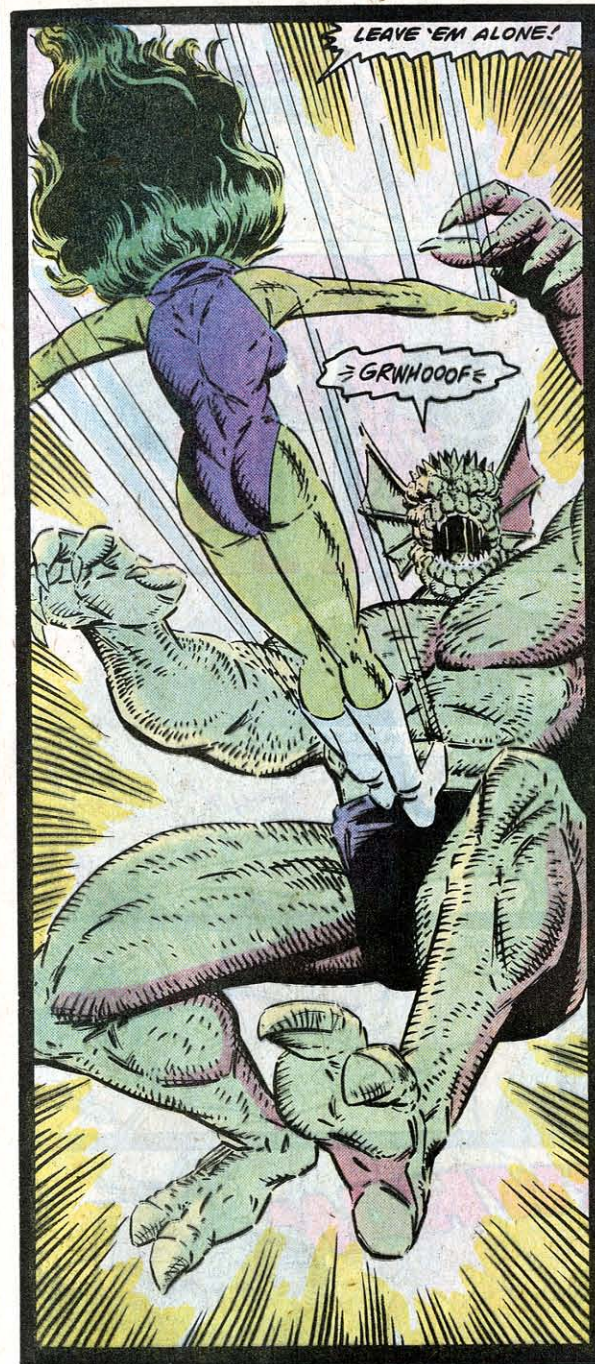
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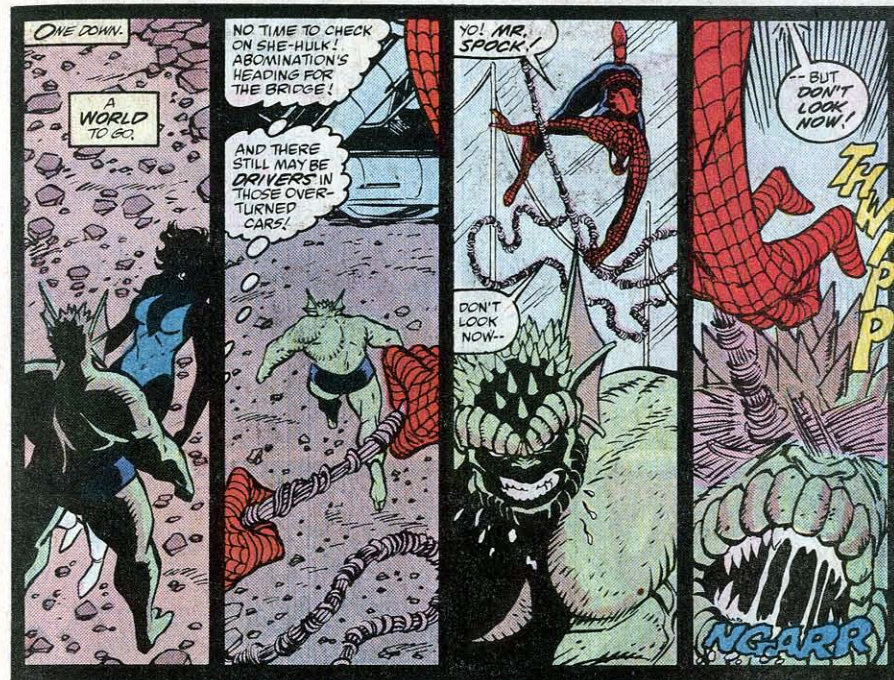
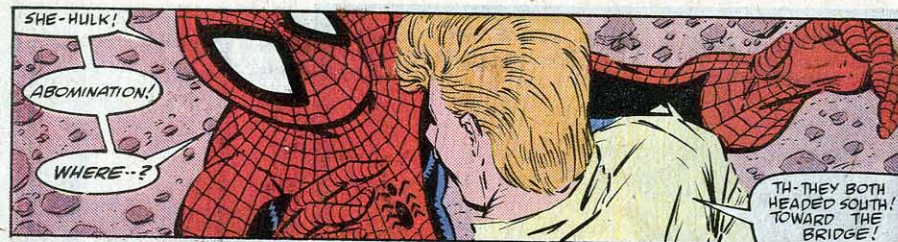


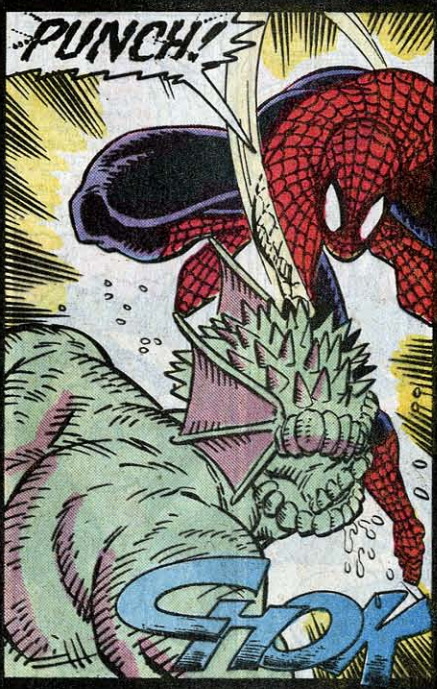
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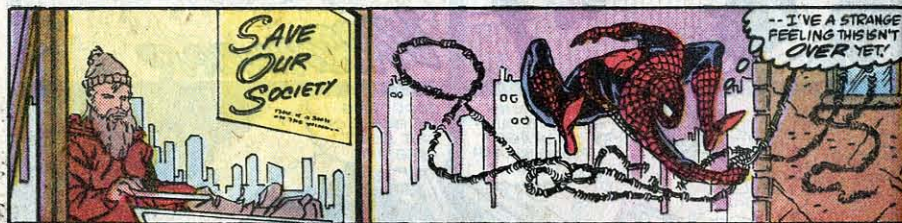
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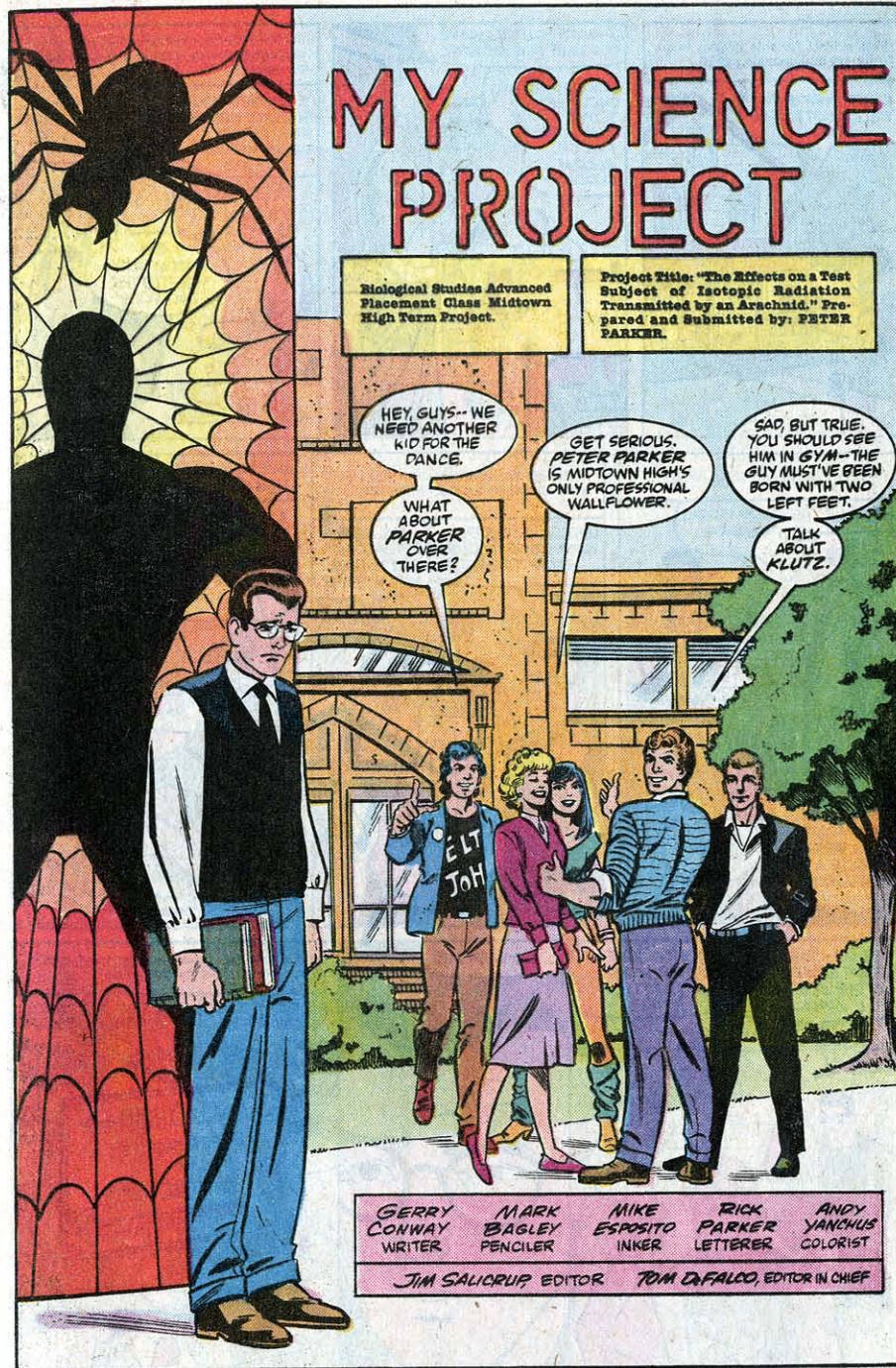
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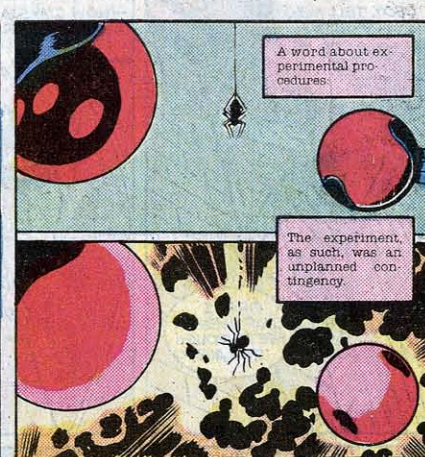
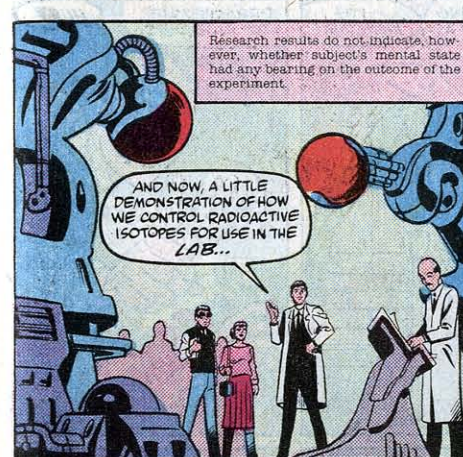
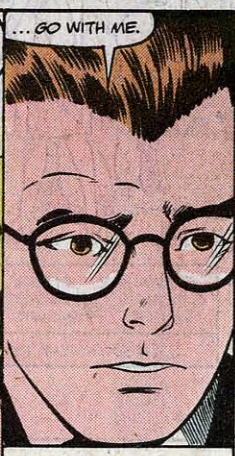
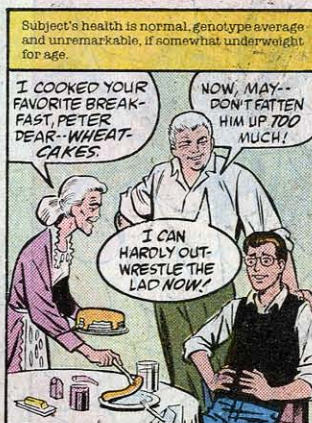
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422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1017, 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TO BE CONTINUED IN THE PUNISHER ANNUAL #2.

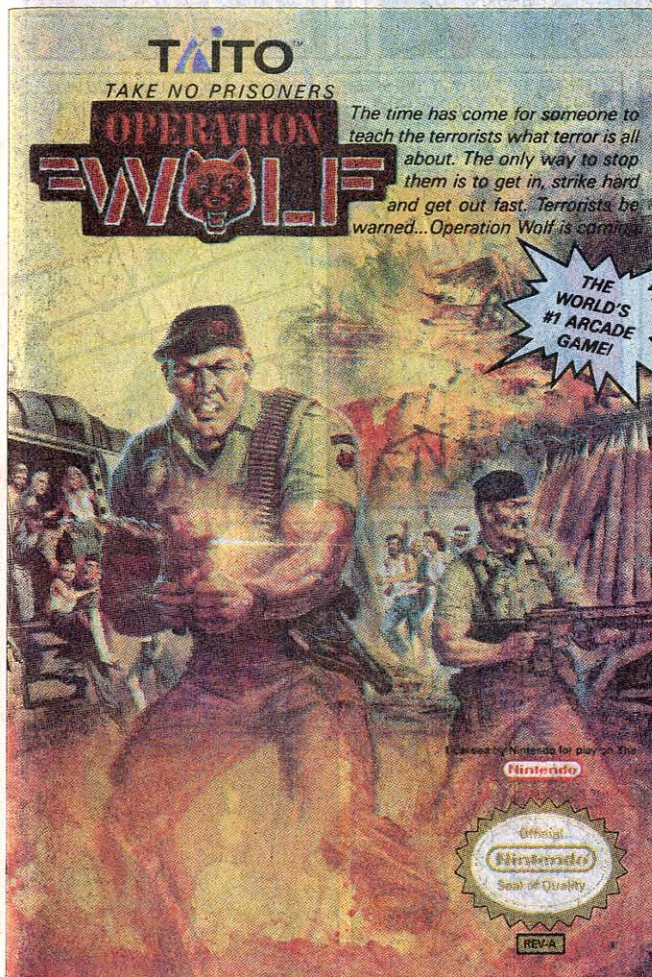






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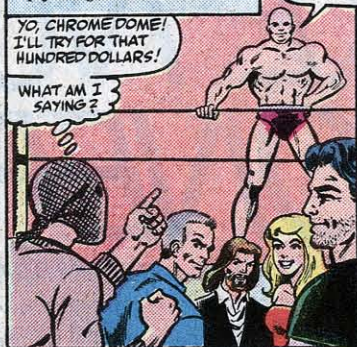
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Oddly, in addition to certain obvious physical modifications...

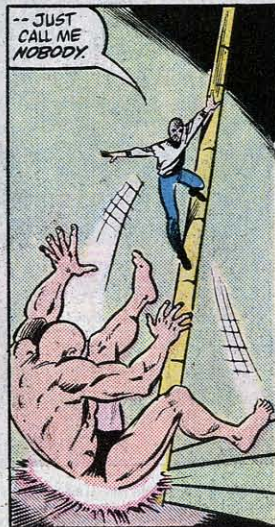


...subject apparently experienced a psychological liberation as well.



WELL, WELL! IF IT AIN'T A LITTLE MASKED MARVEL!

STEP RIGHT UP, SUCKER.

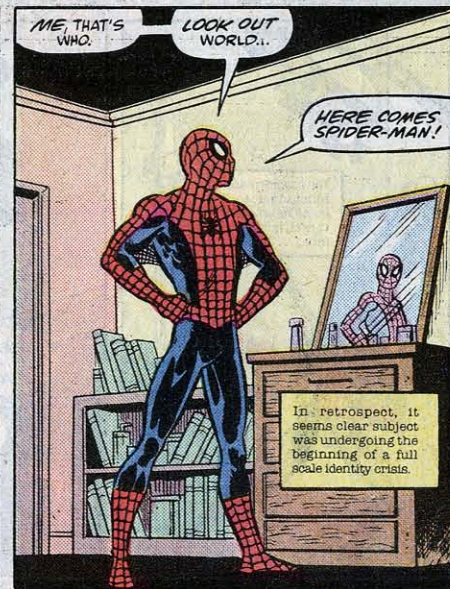


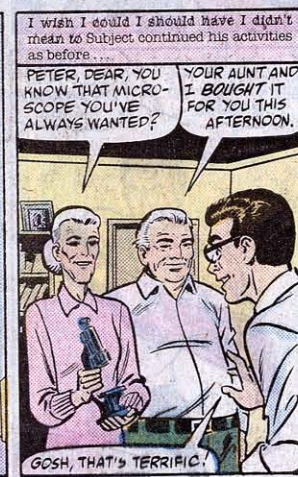
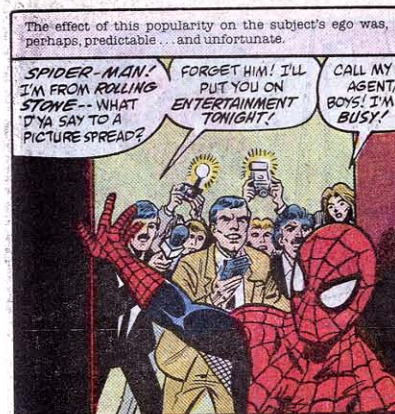
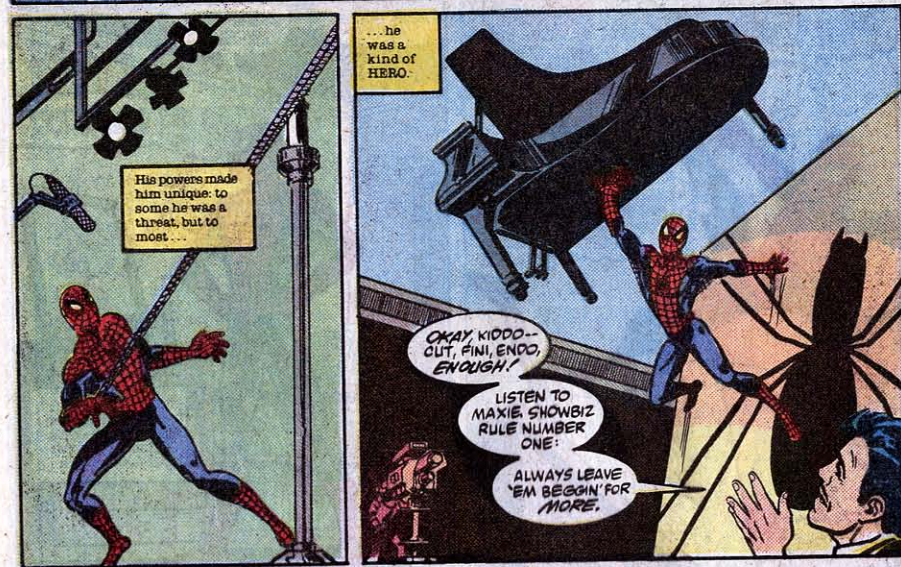
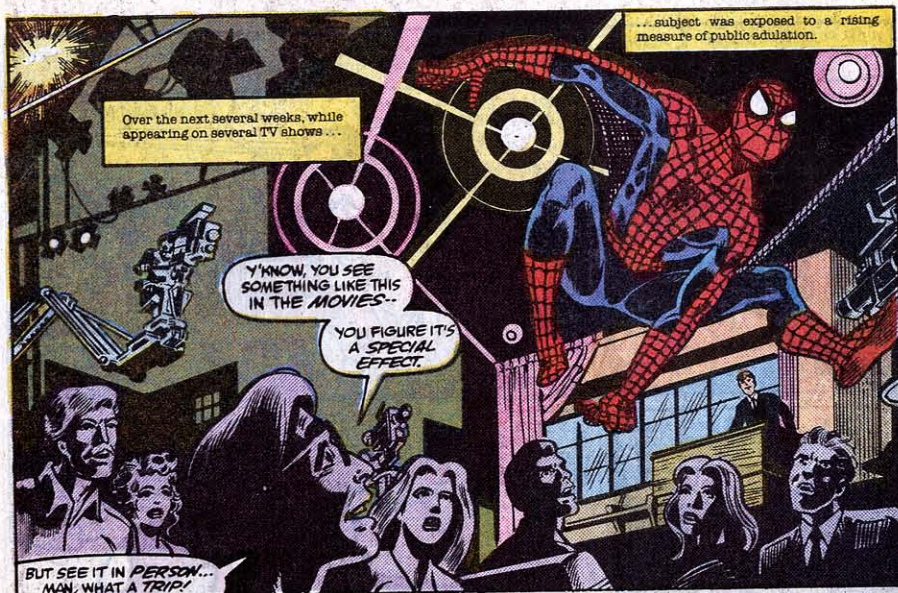
NICE STUFF, KID. NEEDS POLISH, BUT YOU CAN GO PLACES.

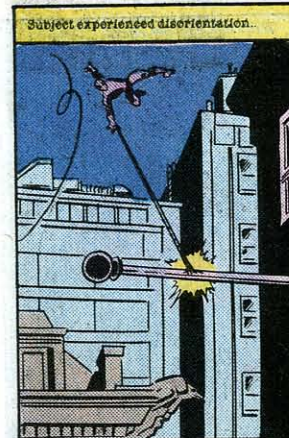
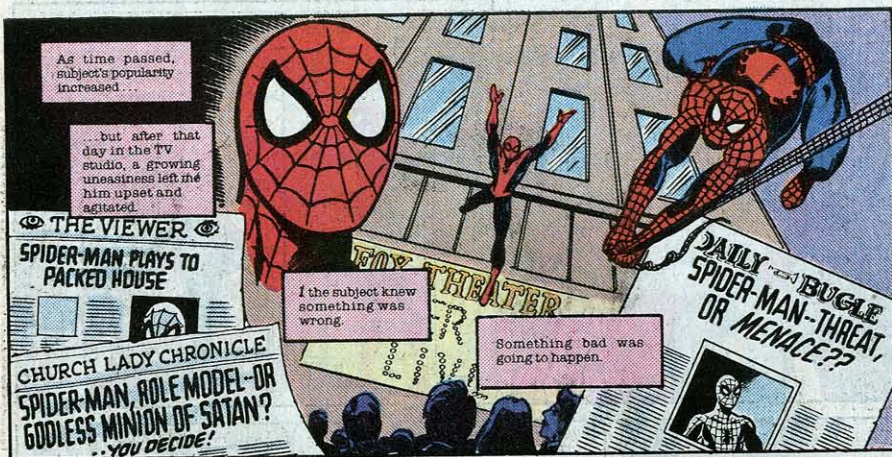
THANKS...



At this point, subject's response to the organic reconstruction produced by the radioactive infusion remained firmly ingenuous.









SPIDER-MAN'S UNCANNY SPIDER-SENSE



HAVING A SPIDER-SENSE IS ALSO A LOT LIKE POSSESSING A PERSONAL RADAR UNIT!



SPIDER-MAN NEVER HAS TO WORRY ABOUT WATCHING WHERE HE'S WALKING... BECAUSE HIS SPIDER-SENSE ALWAYS GUIDES HIM UNERRINGLY!

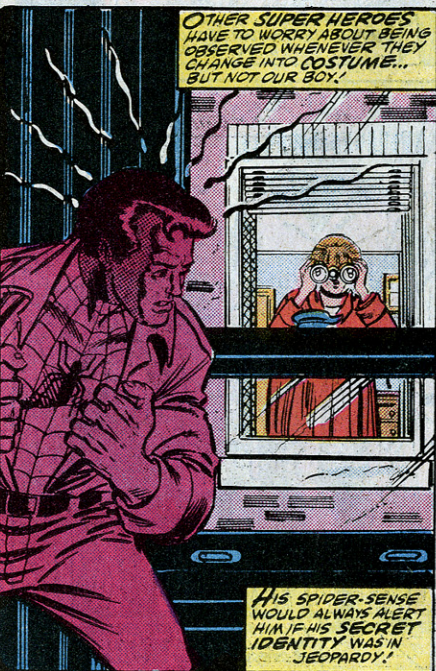
HE IS NEVER HELPLESS! NOT EVEN IN TOTAL DARKNESS! BECAUSE HIS SPIDER-SENSE ALWAYS PREVENTS HIM FROM ACCIDENTALLY BUMPING INTO ANYTHING... OR ANYONE!



LOOSE BOARDS, CREAKY STAIRS AND ROTTED RAFTERS NEVER TROUBLE OUR WALL-CRAWLING FRIEND... BECAUSE HIS UNCANNY SENSE ALWAYS WARNS HIM AWAY FROM THEM!



OTHER SUPER HEROES HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT BEING OBSERVED WHENEVER THEY CHANGE INTO COSTUME... BUT NOT OUR BOY!



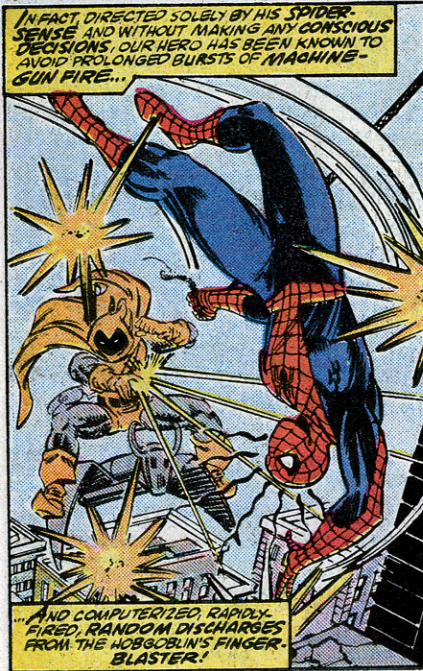
HIS SPIDER-SENSE WOULD ALWAYS ALERT HIM IF HIS SECRET IDENTITY WAS IN JEOPARDY!



SPIDER-MAN'S SPIDER-SENSE IS AN INSTINCTIVE RESPONSE TO DANGER WHICH ALWAYS TRIGGERS HIS AMAZING SPIDER-LIKE REFLEXES IN PLenty OF TIME TO AVOID INJURY!

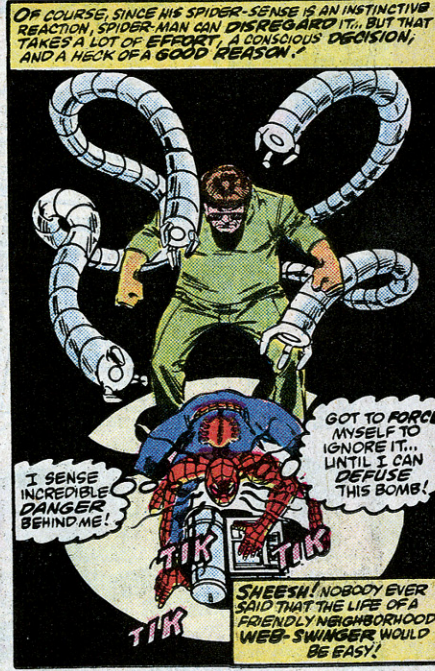
HE MOVES SO FAST THAT HE CAN USUALLY DODGE A BLOW... BEFORE IT IS THROWN... WHICH EXPLAINS WHY IT IS SO RARE FOR ANYONE TO EVER HIT HIM!

IN FACT, DIRECTED SOLELY BY HIS SPIDER-SENSE AND WITHOUT MAKING ANY CONSCIOUS DECISIONS, OUR HERO HAS BEEN KNOWN TO AVOID PROLONGED BURSTS OF MACHINE-GUN FIRE...



AND COMPUTERIZED, RAPIDLY-FIRED, RANDOM DISCHARGES FROM THE HOBGOBLIN'S FINGER-BLASTER!

OF COURSE, SINCE HIS SPIDER-SENSE IS AN INSTINCTIVE REACTION, SPIDER-MAN CAN DISREGARD IT... BUT THAT TAKES A LOT OF EFFORT, A CONSCIOUS DECISION, AND A HECK OF A GOOD REASON!



I SENSE INCREDIBLE DANGER BEHIND ME!

GOT TO FORCE MYSELF TO IGNORE IT... UNTIL I CAN DEFUSE THIS BOMB!

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Pole Position	49 JB 65955	30.93
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Superman™	49 JB 75202	44.47
Super Team Games™	49 JB 75128	38.87
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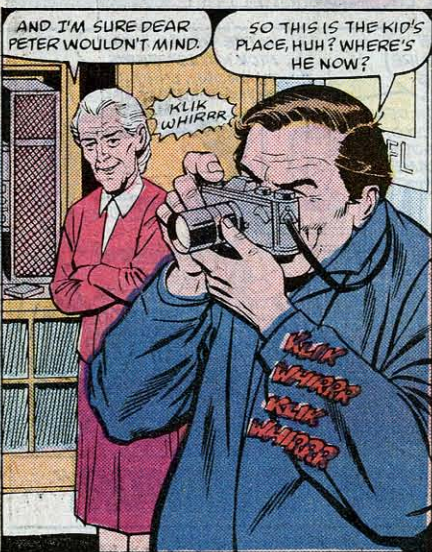
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FELONS WERE JUDGED IN THREE CATEGORIES:

ONE. **TENACITY.** Y'SEE, I'VE FOUGHT MANY AN EARTH-THREATENING MENACE—ONCE THOSE SKUNKS DON'T SHOW UP ON MY LIST, BUT MORE THAN A FEW LESS-POWERFUL—ALBEIT PERSISTENT—WEASELS DO.

TWO. **RAW POWER.** SPECIAL ABILITIES AND ORACULAR INTELLIGENCE, ALL GROUPED TOGETHER, ALL SELF-EXPLANATORY.

AND THREE. **PURE MEANNESS.** JUST HOW NASTY ARE THEY? HAVE THEIR ACTIONS MADE OUR RELATIONSHIP A PERSONAL ONE, OR DOES IT REMAIN STRICTLY ON A MORE PROFESSIONAL GOOD GUY/BAD GUY PLANE? IF THE LATTER'S THE CASE, THEN THEY PROBABLY DON'T QUALIFY.

AND, OF COURSE, BEAR IN MIND THAT THESE RANKINGS ARE SUBJECTIVE, AND I MIGHT VERY WELL CHANGE MY MIND TOMORROW, BUT THAT'S THEN, AND THIS IS NOW. SO LET'S GET ON WITH THE COUNTDOWN, SHALL WE?

SPIDER-MAN'S TOP 30 VILLAIN COUNTDOWN !!!!!!!!!!!

NO, THIS IS NOT CAPTAIN AMERICA'S LIST, AND YES, THAT IS THE RED SKULL COMING IN AT #30. (AFTER ALL, ON CAP'S LIST, THE SKULL WOULD PROBABLY BE #1.) DURING OUR ONE ENCOUNTER, I MANAGED TO CLEAR MY PARENTS' NAME OF TREASON, A CHARGE THE SKULL TRUMPED UP AFTER HE HAD THEM KILLED DURING MY INFANCY. CLEARLY, REASON ENOUGH FOR INCLUSION.

COMING IN AT #29 IN A BULLET—WHICH, COINCIDENTALLY, IS HOW HE DIED—IS THE MAN IN THE CRIMEMASTER'S MASK, WHETHER IT WAS THE LATE NICK LEWIS, OR HIS REVENGE-SEEKING SON—OR, FOR THAT MATTER, THE ROSE, THE SCHEMER, THE BIG MAN OR THE HIT MAN.

THEN THERE'S GUYS LIKE THE SINEATER, #28. STAN CARTER WAS A COP BY PROFESSION, BUT BECAME A CRIMINAL BY REASON OF INSANITY. UNFORTUNATELY, HIS CRAZINESS PUT SOME GOOD PEOPLE INTO EARLY GRAVES, INCLUDING POLICE CAPTAIN JEAN D'WOLFE.

HAMMERHEAD #27, A CRIME BOSS WITH SOME THING EXTRA: A CRANIUM OF UNBENDABLE STEEL, AND A WORK ETHIC FORMED BY 30'S GANGSTER MOVIES. WHAT A DIRTY RAT.

THE FIRST COSTUMED VILLAIN I EVER MATCHED WITH, THE CHAMELEON, SHOWS UP AT #26. LATE WORD HAS IT THAT HIS DISGUISE ABILITIES HAVE BEEN GREATLY AUGMENTED, SO HE MIGHT VERY WELL BE MOVING UP ON THE LIST. CHECK BACK WITH ME NEXT YEAR.

COOKING IN AT #25 IS THE BIGGEST DRIP OF THIS DREARY COLLECTION, HYDRO-MAN. I'VE FOUND THIS IS THE SECOND TOTAL COMMAND OF HIS BODY WATER MAKES HIM A POWERFUL ADVERSARY—AND PROBABLY A GOOD COMPANION ON-PAVEMENT.

—LONG TRIPS!



THE VIBRO SHOCK UNITS OF FOE #24, THE SHOCKER, ARE CAPABLE OF REALLY RATTLING MY TEETH, SO WHENEVER POSSIBLE, I ATTEMPT TO RATTLE HIS FIRST—WITH MY FIRST!

A SPECIAL LAVA-LIKE LUSTER TO HIS SKIN, JUST WISH HE WOULDN'T TAKE HIS ANGER OUT ON ME.

THE MOLTEN MAN #23, LONG-SUFFERING STEP-BROTHER OF OLD FRIEND LIZ ALLAN, IS HOT NOT ONLY UNDER THE COLLAR, BUT EVERYWHERE THAT THE LAB ACCIDENT THAT GAVE HIM

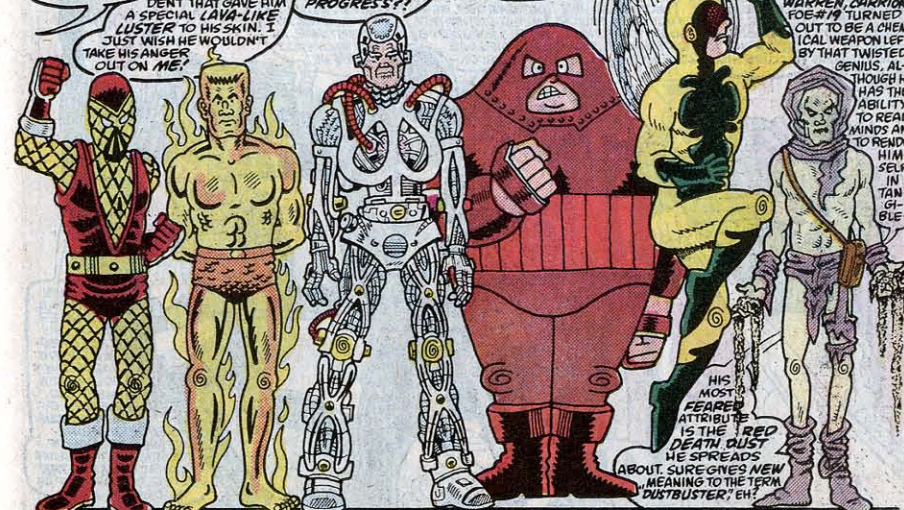
IN THE MAGGIA DIVISION, WE HAVE #22, WOULD-BE CRIMINAL LORD SYLVIUS MANE, AKA SILVERMANE, A FRAIL, 20-YEAR-OLD SEEKING THE FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH. HE FOUND IT IN A CYBORG BODY. I ASK YOU, THIS IS PROGRESS??

X-MEN FANS WILL PROBABLY RECOGNIZE FOE #21 AS THE TUGGERMANT, JUST THINKING ABOUT THE TIME I TRIED TO STOP THIS HUMAN BULLDOZER GIVES ME BRUISES!

MURDERER RICH DEACON FORCED A SCIENTIST TO GIVE HIM THE ABILITIES OF A NUIMAN (#20) BUT SOON AFTER, THESE ABILITIES WENT TO HIS HEAD. NOWADAYS, HE CAN BE FOUND OUT BY THE DOCKS, LUNCHING ON THE GARBAGE BARGE.

ORIGINALLY THOUGHT TO BE THE CLONE OF THE LATE DR. MILES WARREN, CARRION, #19, TURNED OUT TO BE A CHEMICAL WEAPON LEFT BY THAT TWISTED GENIUS, AL THOMAS. HE HAS THE ABILITY TO READ MINDS AND TO RENDER HIMSELF IN TANGIBLE.

HIS MOST FEARED ATTRIBUTE IS THE RED DEATH DUST HE SPREADS ABOUT, SURE GIVES NEW MEANING TO THE TERM 'DUSTBUSTER,' EH?



MY COLLEGE PROF, THE AFOREMENTIONED WARREN, WAS CRAZY ABOUT GWEN STACY, SO CRAZY, HE NOT ONLY BLAMED ME FOR HER DEATH, BUT BECAME THE JACKAL (#18) IN AN ATTEMPT TO AVENGE HER AND RECREATE HER! HE FAILED, HE'S DEAD, BUT THE BITTER MEMORY LINGERS.

COMING IN AT #17, DIRECT FROM SOUTH OF THE BORDER IS THE TARANTULA. THIS IS THE SECOND TOTAL COMMAND OF HIS BODY WATER MAKES HIM A POWERFUL ADVERSARY—AND PROBABLY A GOOD COMPANION ON-PAVEMENT.

ANOTHER NE'DO WELL WHOSE STRENGTH WAS TREMENDOUSLY INCREASED BY MODERN SCIENCE, THE RHINO IS FOE #16. INITIALLY, I WAS THE RHINO'S VOLE ADVERSARY, BUT I'VE SINCE WISED-UP: WHENEVER I HEAR HE'S ON THE LOOSE, THE FIRST THING I DO IS RUN TO THE PHONE AND LEAVE A MESSAGE ON THE HULK'S ANSWERING MACHINE.

WITH ANIMAL-LIKE ABILITIES AND MYSTICALLY-ENHANCED POWERS, NATIVE AMERICAN THOMAS FIRE-HEART LOSES IN AT #15 IN HIS IDENTITY OF PUMA. WHILE SOME SAY HE'S GOOD, BAD, BUT NOT EVIL, I NEVERTHELESS REMAIN SKEPTICAL OF ANYBODY WHO'S NOT ONLY C.O. OF A LARGE COMPANY, BUT A MERCENARY, AS WELL.

HOWABOUT VILLAIN #14, THE LIZARD? I KNOW HE'S A REAL GOOD GUY WHEN HE'S DR. CURT CONNORS, BUT EXPERIENCE TELLS ME HE'S ALSO A REAL BAD GUY IN HIS REPTILIAN FORM. AS A FRIEND, I FIND IT THAT MUCH HARDER TRYING TO SUBDUCE HIM WITHOUT CAUSING PERMANENT DAMAGE.

A LIGHTNING BOLT STRIKING A LIZARD WHO WAS WORKING, GAVE THE ABILITY TO MAX DILLON TO HARNESS THE POWERS OF ELECTRICITY. BY USING HIMSELF ELECTRICITY IN OUR HATE PARADE, I'VE ALWAYS FOUND FACING HIM TO BE A SHOCKING EXPERIENCE, AND GIVEN A CHOICE, I'D DEFINITELY VOLT AGAINST IT! (HEY, NOW—NO STATIC ABOUT MY JOKES, OKAY?)





SPIDEY



VERSUS J.J.J.!!

HERE IT IS! THE LONGEST RUNNING FEUD IN THE HISTORY OF THIS, THE MARVEL AGE OF COMICS!!

YES, IT'S TIME TO EXAMINE THE NEVER-ENDING HOSTILITIES BETWEEN J. JONAH JAMESON AND THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!!

IT'S BEEN GOING ON NON-STOP SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #1. EVER SINCE THAT FORMER SHOW BIZ SENSATION, SPIDER-MAN, TURNED HIS ABILITIES TOWARD CRIME BUSTING, DAILY BUGLE PUBLISHER J. JONAH JAMESON HAS USED THE WEBSLINGER AS THE FOCUS OF HIS CRUSADE AGAINST SUPERHEROIC VIGILANTISM.

ALL MY LIFE I'VE BEEN INTERESTED IN ONLY ONE THING--MAKING MONEY! AND YET, SPIDER-MAN RISKS HIS LIFE DAY AFTER DAY WITH NO THOUGHT OF REWARD. IF A MAN LIKE HIM IS GOOD--IS A HERO--THEN WHAT AM I??

I CAN NEVER RESPECT MYSELF WHILE HE LIVES!

SPIDER-MAN REPRESENTS EVERYTHING I'M NOT! HE'S BRAVE, POWERFUL, AND UNSELFISH! THE TRUTH IS, I ENVY HIM! I, J. JONAH JAMESON--MILLIONAIRE, MAN OF THE WORLD, CIVIC LEADER--I'D GIVE EVERYTHING I OWN TO BE THE MAN HE IS!

BUT I CAN NEVER CLIMB TO HIS LEVEL! SO ALL THAT REMAINS FOR ME IS--TO TRY TO TEAR HIM DOWN--BECAUSE, HEAVEN HELP ME--I'M JEALOUS OF HIM!

AS TIME PASSES, JEALOUSY WAS SCARCELY EVER MENTIONED AGAIN, WITH J.J.J. SAFELY RETREATING INTO HIS SELF-RIGHTEOUS ANTI-VIGILANTISM STANCE.

AND, IN ALL FAIRNESS, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT PUBLISHER JAMESON HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR A LOT OF GOOD BEING ACCOMPLISHED.

HOWEVER, WE'RE HERE TO RECALL EVENTS THAT ARE DECIDEDLY INELIGIBLE FOR THAT PARTICULAR LIST.

WHY? WHY ALL THIS BITTERNESS AND HATRED FROM J.J.J., THE MAN WHO, IT SHOULD BE NOTED, PRECIPITATED THIS LONG-STANDING ANTAGONISM? WELL, WHO CAN SAY FOR SURE, BUT, ONCE, A LONG, LONG TIME AGO, IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #101, JAMESON MADE THE FOLLOWING CONFESSION IN THE PRIVACY OF HIS EMPTY OFFICE:

MY MANY CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH FILM-EFFECTS MAN-TURNED-MIND-MANIPULATOR, MYSTERY EARN HIM THE #12 SLOT. SANDMAN'S CRAFTY AS THEY COME, HE ONCE HAD ME ON A PSYCHIATRIST'S COUCH, READY TO TELL ALL. THANK HEAVENS MY WORK WAS UP!

ALTHOUGH REPORTS ARE IN THAT FOE #11, THE SANDMAN, HAS SOME STRAIGHT, HIS TING ABILITY GAVE ME SO MUCH TROUBLE EARLY IN MY CAREER, IT WOULD GO AGAINST MY GRAIN NOT TO INCLUDE HIM.

EASING INTO OUR TOP 10, WE HAVE J. JONAH JAMESON, DAILY BUGLE PUBLISHER AND CONSTANT THORN IN MY SIDE SINCE DAY 1. FACT IS, I'D CONSIDER HIM FOE #11, EXCEPT FOR TWO THINGS: HE'S NOT TRULY EVIL (OR SO I'M TOLD), AND I KNOW SHOULD IT EVER COME TO IT--

I COULD BEAT THE NEWSPRINT OUT OF HIM!

#9, THE BURGALAR WHO KILLED UNCLE BEN, HIS HAND OBSCURED HIS FACE AS I CAPTURED HIM WITH RIGHTEOUS INDIGNATION, WHICH ALL BUT DISSIPATED WHEN I REALIZED HE WAS THE SAME GUY WHO REALLY HATES ME!

VILLAIN #7, THE SCORPION, DOESN'T JUST POSSESS A SUPERHUMAN POWERFUL TAIL, BUT IS AN ON AND OFF AGAIN PSYCHOTIC TO BOOT--MOSTLY ON!

VENOM #8 IS AN UNUSUAL COMBINATION OF THE EVIL ALIEN ENTITY THAT WAS MY BLACK COSTUME, AN A GUY WHO REALLY HATES ME!

WHEN DOCTOR DOOM DOES HIS ELECTRO-MAGNETIC MAGNEX HE'S NO LONGER A MEERKAT, HE'S A SERIOUS DENTURE. WEARER THIS SIDE OF SILVERMANE, THE MASTER CRIMINAL KNOWN AS THE VULTURE, SHOWING UP AS BAD GUY #6.

COMING IN AT #5 IS THE ESTIMABLE DR. DOOM. NOW, IT'S TRUE THAT WE'VE ONLY TANGLED ON A FEW OCCASIONS, BUT YOU CAN'T REALLY BE A HERO IN THE MARVEL UNIVERSE AND NOT PUT THE LORD OF LATVERIA SOMEWHERE IN YOUR TOP TEN.

NEXT, THE CRIMELORD OF ALL CRIMELORDS, WILSON FISK, THE KINGPIN. NO PUSH-OVER IN THE SLUG-FEST DEPARTMENT, HE'S CHOSEN IN RECENT TIMES TO VENT MOST OF HIS VENGEANCE ON DAREDEVIL, NOT YOURS TRULY, CAUSING HIM TO DROP A WAYS BACK ON MY LIST--ALL THE WAY DOWN TO #4.

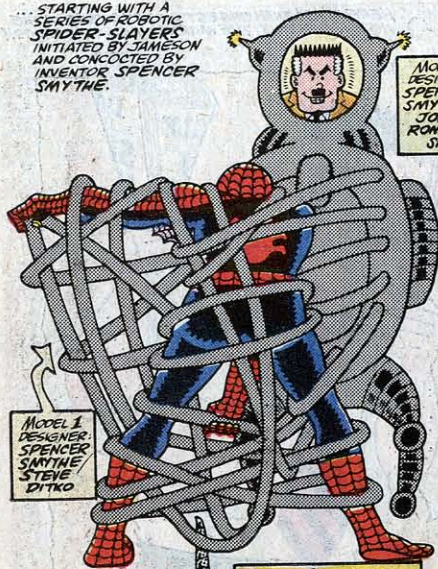
WITHOUT ANY REAL SUPER-POWERS AND WITH SOMETHING RESEMBLING A SENSE OF HONOR, KRAVEN THE HUNTER, MAY SEEM AN ODD CHOICE FOR VILLAIN #3, BUT I WANNA TELL YA, WHEN I SHOULD'VE BEEN ENJOYING THE AFTERGLOW OF MY NUPRIALS, HE HAD ME BURIED DEEP IN THE GROUND FOR WEEKS. AN BELIEVE ME, THAT'LL REALLY GET YOUR ATTENTION!

DR. OTTO OCTAVIUS, THE ARROGANT RESEARCH SCIENTIST TRANSFORMED INTO THE CRIMINAL GENIUS DR. OCTOPUS BY YET ANOTHER RADIOACTIVE ACCIDENT SHOWS UP AT #2. NOT ONLY FOR ALL THE PAIN AND GRIEF HIS MECHANICAL TENTACLES HAVE GIVEN ME, BUT FOR ALMOST ACCOMPLISHING THE MOST DASTARDLY DEED OF ALL: BECOMING MY UNCLE BEN. I HATE HIM!

AND NOW, PRESENTING MY #1 FOE(S): THE GOBLIN BROTHERS, NOB, AND GREEN. NOT ACTUALLY RELATED, ONE SPANNED THE OTHER, AND MANY HAVE WORN THEIR GUISE: THE LATE NORMAN OSBORN, MURDERER OF GWEN STACY, WAS THE ORIGINAL GREEN GOBLIN, FOLLOWED BY HIS SON, HARRY. AN THEN HARRY'S SHRIKING, THE LATE NED LEEDS, HUSBAND OF BETTY BRANT, WAS THE ORIGINAL NOBGOBLIN, AN IDENTITY TAKEN UP BY FORMER THIRD RATER, JACK O' LANTERN, WHO'S SURE TO BE EVEN BIGGER TROUBLE SINCE, DURING THE INFERNAL, HE WAS TRANSFORMED BY DEMONS INTO MORE OF A TRUE GOBLIN THAN ANY OF HIS PREDECESSORS. WELL, THERE YOU HAVE IT--MY TOP 30 VILLAINS!! I HATE ALL OF YOU OUT THERE ENJOYED SEEING 'EM!

I KNOW I CERTAINLY HAVEN'T!! "NUFF SAID!"

STARTING WITH A SERIES OF ROBOTIC SPIDER-SLAYERS INITIATED BY JAMESON AND CONCOCTED BY INVENTOR SPENCER SMYTHE.



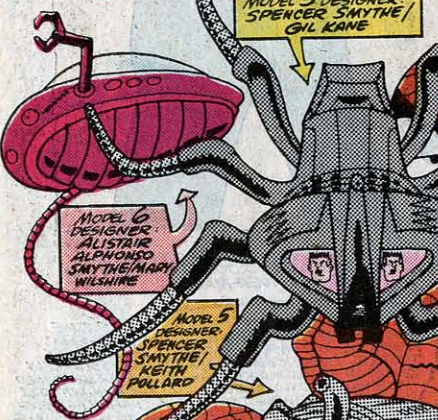
MODEL 1
DESIGNER:
SPENCER
SMYTHE/
STEVE
DITKO

MODEL 2
DESIGNER:
SPENCER
SMYTHE/
JOHN
ROMITA, JR.



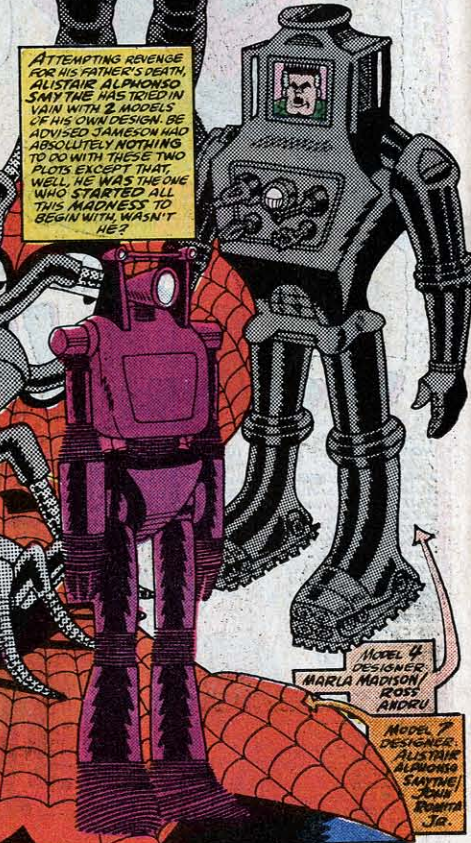
MODEL 3
DESIGNER:
SPENCER SMYTHE/
GIL KANE

ATTEMPTING REVENGE FOR HIS FATHER'S DEATH, ALISTAIR ALPHONSO SMYTHE HAS TRIED IN VAIN WITH 2 MODELS OF HIS OWN DESIGN. HE ADVISED JAMESON HAD ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO WITH THESE TWO PLOTS EXCEPT THAT, WELL, HE WAS THE ONE WHO STARTED ALL THIS MADNESS TO BEGIN WITH. WASN'T HE?



MODEL 6
DESIGNER:
ALISTAIR
ALPHONSO
SMYTHE/MARY
WILSHIRE

MODEL 5
DESIGNER:
SPENCER
SMYTHE/
KEITH
POLLARD



MODEL 4
DESIGNER:
MARLA MADISON/
ROSS
ANDRU

MODEL 7
DESIGNER:
ALISTAIR
ALPHONSO
SMYTHE/
JOHN
ROMITA JR.

4 TIMES, J.J.J. GLEEFULLY MANNED THE CONTROL PANELS, STALKING HIS ARCH ENEMY IN HOPES OF CAPTURING AND UNMASKING HIM. 4 TIMES HE FAILED.

ONCE SPURNING SMYTHE, JAMESON TURNED TO SCIENTIST MARLA MADISON IN HOPES OF TRIUMPHING OVER THE AMAZING ARACHNID. THE RESULTS? MIXED. JAMESON LOST WITH MADISON'S ROBOT, BUT WON WITH MADISON'S HEART - SHE LATER BECAME MRS. J. JONAH JAMESON!

SMYTHE, MEANWHILE, WAS BECOMING MORE AND MORE DERANGED FROM THE RADIATION POISONING THAT WAS SLOWLY KILLING HIM. NOW HE WAS MANNING THE SPIDER-SLAYERS HIMSELF. THE INTENT WAS NO LONGER TO CAPTURE, BUT TO KILL. AND THAT INCLUDED JAMESON AS WELL AS SPIDER-MAN! THEY BARELY ESCAPED WITH THEIR LIVES... SMYTHE WASN'T SO LUCKY.

AFTER HIRING PRIVATE EYE MAC GARGAN TO SHADOW PETER PARKER, J.J.J. HAD A BETTER IDEA.

HE OFFERED TEN GRAND APIECE TO DR. FARLEY STILLWELL AND GARGAN TO DEVELOP AND SUBMIT TO EXPERIMENTAL SUPERHUMAN ABILITIES CAPABLE OF DEFEATING SPIDER-MAN.

GARGAN BECAME THE SCORPION AND PSYCHOTIC. IN THAT ORDER, DR. STILLWELL BECAME DEAD, AND J.J.J.? HE ALMOST HAD HIS WEDDING DISRUPTED BY THE MAN WITH THE DEADLY GREEN TAIL.



WHEN I SAID I PUT MY BLOOD SWEAT AND TEARS INTO EVERY EDITION OF THE BUGLE, THIS ISN'T EXACTLY WHAT I HAD IN MIND!!

NOT LEARNING FROM HIS MISTAKES, JAMESON PROPOSED A SIMILAR DEAL TO STILLWELL'S BROTHER, HARLAN, OVERHEARD BY ESCAPED MURDERER, RICK DEACON. DEACON SOON BECAME THE FLY. STILLWELL SOON BECAME DEAD, AND WHEN A PSYCHOTIC FLY DROPPED THE MAN HE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS CONDITION OVER THE DAILY BUGLE PRINTING PRESSES, JAMESON SOON BECAME SORRY HE HAD STARTED THIS WHOLE MESS!

WITH PHOTOS OF SPIDER-MAN DISPOSING OF THE BODY OF THE (SUPPOSED) PETER PARKER ALONE, JAMESON WAS IN A POSITION TO DESTROY HIS ARCH ENEMY'S CAREER. EXCEPT HE WAS DUMB ENOUGH TO SWALLOW THE OLD "DOUBLE EXPOSURE" EXCUSE A PANICKED PARKER FED HIM!!

J.J.J. HAD ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO WITH TRANSFORMING HIS SON, JOHN, INTO THE MAN-WOLF. BUT OH, WHAT A PROUD PAPA HE MUST'VE BEEN WHEN SPIDEY AND WOLFEY LOCKED-UP IN COMBAT.

"SIGH! HE'S GOT HIS MOTHER'S TEETH!"



... AND JUST HOW DOES SPIDER-MAN REACT IN THE FACE OF J. JONAH JAMESON'S RELENTLESS ATTACKS? WELL, HE PRETTY MUCH TAKES IT IN STRIDES, BUT AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK, DOWN AT THE DAILY BUGLE'S PAYMASTER'S OFFICE, A BIG SMILE INVARIABLY PLAYS ACROSS PHOTOGRAPHER PETER PARKER'S FACE.

AFTER ALL, THERE'S SOMETHING TO BE SAID FOR HAVING YOUR WORST ENEMY PAY YOU GOOD MONEY JUST TO TAKE PICTURES OF YOURSELF. ISN'T THERE?

THE SAGA OF THE SERPENT CROWN CATAclysm

PETER BAGLEY KEITH WILLIAMS JADE MOSE LETTERER MARC SIRY COLORIST GREGORY WRIGHT MANAGING EDITOR MARK GRUENWALD EDITOR TOM DEFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

BASED IN PART ON STORIES BY JACK KIRBY, STEVE GERBER, AND HOWARD CHAYKIN

NORMAL HUMANKIND HAD BUILT A GLORIOUS CIVILIZATION ON THE ISLAND CONTINENT OF ATLANTIS, WHICH STILL STOOD ABOVE THE WAVES.

BUT MOST OF HUMANITY HAD BEEN ENSLAVED BY THE DEVIANTS OF THE CONTINENT OF LEMURIA, A RACE THAT CELESTIALS HAD CREATED.

ATLANTIS WAS THE LAST STRONGHOLD OF HUMAN FREEDOM, AND THE DEVIANTS VOWED THAT IT TOO WOULD FALL BEFORE THEM.

I, UATU THE WATCHER, OBSERVED AS THE FIRST HOST OF THE ENIGMATIC ALIEN CELESTIALS CAME TO EARTH TO PERFORM GENETIC EXPERIMENTS ON THE ANCESTORS OF THE HUMAN RACE.

ROUGHLY 20,000 YEARS AGO THE SECOND HOST OF THE CELESTIALS CAME TO INSPECT THE PROGRESS OF THEIR HANDIWORK. MUCH HAD CHANGED IN THEIR ABSENCE.

BUT THERE ARE OTHERS IN THE DEVIANTS' VERY MIDST WHO PLOT THEIR DESTRUCTION.

AND THEIR LEADER IS ATRA, THE GREATEST HUMAN ALCHEMIST OF THE CONQUERED ISLAND OFF LEMURIA.

I GIVE YOU WARNING, ATRA! WE DEVIANTS KNOW YOU ARE WORKING ON A POWERFUL NEW WEAPON! UNLESS YOU TURN IT OVER TO THE PALACE BEFORE NIGHTFALL, WE SHALL FIND IT AND TAKE IT BY FORCE!

I SHALL SEE OUR MIGHTY EMPEROR WITHIN THE HOUR. GOOD DAY TO YOU, DEVIANT.

THE FOOLS! THEY HAVE LEARNED MY LITTLE SECRET TOO LATE TO SAVE EITHER THEMSELVES OR THEIR THICKHEADED EMPEROR!

FATHER, WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHAT IS IT YOU HAVE DONE?

MY CIRCLE OF ALCHEMISTS CREATED IT WITH HELP FROM THE LEGENDARY SERPENT-MEN, ANTILIA.

THE SERPENT-MEN! BUT, FATHER, THEY SERVE A DEMON!

AS DO I, NOW. AND THROUGH THIS SERPENT CROWN MADE IN HIS IMAGE, FATHER SET WILL GRANT ME POWER ENOUGH TO TOPPLE AN EMPIRE!

MEANWHILE, DEVIANT WARSHIPS MANNED BY HUMAN MERENARIES FROM THE LEMURIAN ISLES STORMED THE DOMED CAPITAL CITY OF ATLANTIS BY AIR AND SEA!

THE SOLE HOPE FOR HUMAN LIBERTY LAY WITH THE NOBLE LEADERS OF ATLANTIS, KING KAMULU AND HIS WIFE ZARTRA, FORMER WARRIOR QUEEN OF THE LEMURIAN ISLES!

BUT EVEN THAT HOPE WAS FADING.

WE HAVE BUT ONE CHANCE, GENERAL! OPEN THE SERPENTS' HEADS!

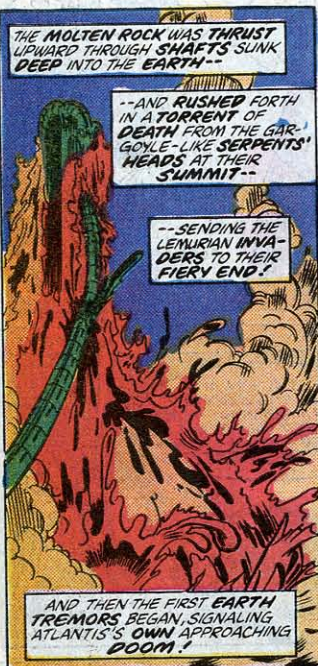
BUT, SIRE! TO RELEASE THE LAVA FROM GEMATH ATLANTIS MIGHT CAUSE UPRISINGS THAT WOULD DOOM US AS WELL AS OUR FOES! MY QUEEN, PLEASE ASK HIS HIGHNESS TO RECONSIDER!

NO, GENERAL! I FLED MY HOMELAND WHEN IT FELL TO THE DEVIANTS. BUT NOW MY HUSBAND AND I WILL FIGHT THEM TO OUR LAST BREATHS!

ALL OF ATLANTIS WOULD RATHER DIE AS FREE PEOPLE THAN LIVE AS SLAVES TO MONSTERS!

ZARTRA AND I THINK AS ONE, GENERAL.

OPEN THE SERPENTS' HEADS.



THE MOLTEN ROCK WAS THRUST UPWARD THROUGH SHAFT'S SUNK DEEP INTO THE EARTH--

--AND RUSHED FORTH IN A TORRENT OF DEATH FROM THE GARGOYLES-LIKE SERPENTS' HEADS AT THEIR SUMMIT--

--SENDING THE LEMURIAN INVADERS TO THEIR FIERY END!

AND THEN THE FIRST EARTH TREMORS BEGAN, SIGNALING ATLANTIS'S OWN APPROACHING DOOM!

--IN EXCHANGE FOR THE BLOOD OF AN INNOCENT--OR AN ENEMY! YOU, MY DEAR, HAVE PROVED TO BE BOTH!

GIVE MY LORD SET MY GREETINGS IN THE NEXT LIFE!



THE HALLS OF ATRA'S SANCTUM WERE FILLED WITH ANTILIA'S SCREAMS OF PAIN--



YOU DO NOT FEAR DEATH, MY LADY? HAVE WE TIME FOR FEAR, KAMUUI?

I LEARNED A LESSON IN MY LEMURIAN GIRLHOOD, A YOUTH SPENT IN BATTLE, SURROUNDED BY DEATH.

LIFE AND DEATH ARE INSEPARABLE, EVEN AS TO ME...

...LOVE AND KAMUUI ARE ONE AND THE SAME.



AND YOU HAVE KEPT ALL OF THIS FROM ME, AS IF I WERE A STUPID CHILD!

BUT I KNOW WHAT YOU CLEARLY DO NOT, FATHER! CONSORTING WITH DEMONS CAN ONLY LEAD TO MORE SUFFERING AND WICKEDNESS! DO NOT LET YOUR HATRED OF THE DEVIANTS COME BETWEEN US!

FATHER SET IS NOT A DEMON, CHILD. HE IS MY GOD.

AND THE GODS REQUIRE SACRIFICES OF US ALL. HE WILL GRANT THE SERPENT CROWN ITS POWER--



--WHILE IN KAMUUI'S PALACE ZARTRA QUIETLY COLLAPSED, MORTALLY WOUNDED FROM BEHIND AS SHE EMBRACED THE MAN SHE LOVED...

...CUT DOWN BY ONE NOLEM OF THE LEMURIAN ISLES, HER FORMER SUBJECT, WHO WAS MORIBUND BY THE DEATHS OF HIS MERCENARY COMPATRIOTS...

...BUT WHO HAD LONG AGO BLIND-ED HIMSELF TO THE TYRANNY AND ATROCITIES OF HIS DEVIANT MASTERS. HE WAS THEIR WILLING SERVANT.

YET HE DARED TO CALL ZARTRA A TRAITOR TO THEIR PEOPLE.



FINALLY, ANTILIA LAV STILL IN DEATH...

FATHER SET INSTRUCTS US THAT WE CANNOT HAVE EVERYTHING IN LIFE, ANTILIA.

WE CANNOT HAVE BOTH LOVE AND POWER. LOVE WEAKENS THE SPIRIT. WE MUST CHOOSE.

I MADE MY CHOICE AND SOON IT SHALL BE ATRA WHO RULES THIS WORLD IN THE NAME OF THE ALL-POWERFUL SET!



WHILE IN THE PALACE OF PHARAU, EMPEROR OF THE DEVIANTS...

IT IS TRUE, SIRE, EVEN NOW THE SHIP HOVERS ABOVE OUR CITY. YOUR SCIENTISTS BELIEVE IT IS THE VESSEL OF THE CELESTIALS, THE SPACE GODS!

INDEED, NO DOUBT OUR LONG MISSING CREATORS EXPECT US TO BOW DOWN IN GRATITUDE FOR THEIR RETURN.



BUT I HAVE ANOTHER GOD.

SHOOT THEM DOWN!

SHOOT THEM DOWN!



ENRAGED, KAMUUI SLEW HIS WIFE'S ASSAULT--

--BUT SHE DIED MOMENTS LATER IN KAMUUI'S ARMS.

AND THE PALACE ITSELF SHOOK EVER MORE STRONGLY!



AH! YOU MAY LEAVE, SLAVE! IT SEEMS THE GREAT ATRA HAS COME TO PAY US A CALL!

DO NOT BOTHER TO SUMMON YOUR GUARDS, TYRANT! I HAVE SEEN TO IT THEY WILL NEVER HEAR ANYTHING AGAIN!



TODAY A NEW AGE BEGINS FOR HUMANITY. HUMANS SHALL AGAIN DOMINATE THE EARTH!

AND I SHALL BE THEIR KING! AND THE DEVIANTS WILL BE MY SLAVES!



DIE, TYRANT!

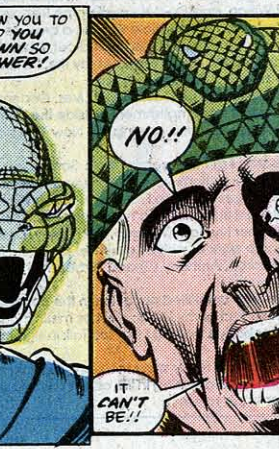
WHAT--?! MY POWER HAS NO EFFECT ON YOU!

OF COURSE NOT, IDIOT!



FATHER SET WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO HARM ME! NOT WHEN WE HAD YOU CREATE THE SERPENT CROWN SO THAT I COULD WIELD ITS POWER!

IT CAN'T BE!!



NO!!

IT CAN'T BE!!



AS HIS PALACE BEGAN TO CRUMBLE, KAMUUI REALIZED ALL WAS INDEED LOST. HE CHAINED HIMSELF TO HIS THRONE TO WAIT FOR THE INEVITABLE END.

ALL I LIVED FOR-- THE GLORY OF ATLANTIS, THE BEAUTY OF MY QUEEN--

--ALL HAVE BEEN TAKEN FROM ME...

...THUS AM I QUITE DEAD EVEN NOW...

Bulpen Bulletins

Stan's Soapbox

Hi, True Believers! The time hath come for a little soul-searching as we tackle a subject that concerns us all.

Years ago, some people looked down their noses at those who created or read comic books. Comics were thought of in the same light as we think of fast foods today. They were perceived as light entertainment with no real nourishment.

Even today, I'll occasionally hear someone give comics a bad rap, usually someone who hasn't read them in years. Well, in case you encounter the same type of comments, here's a little something you can run past your critic...

What are comics? They're stories, told in words and pictures. Are some not as well-written as others? Perhaps. There are also novels, plays and movies which are as well-written as others. But are some comic books written with great skill and integrity? Of course. Are some beautifully illustrated? Just take a look! Are they worthwhile? Bet on it! Since when has the written word coupled with illustration not been worthwhile?

Now, here's the clincher. Let's say Michaelangelo and Shakespeare are alive today and collaborate on a comic book. People would fight for a copy, right? Obviously, there's nothing wrong with telling a story using script and illustration. Just as with any other art form, everything depends on doing it well.

At Marvel, we try to do it well.
Excelsior!

Stan

Pro File: Kelly P. Corvase



Assistant Editor on: CONAN THE BARBARIAN, CONAN THE KING, PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL, THE NAM, THE JOB, and TRANSFORMERS
Marvel freelance credits (past): Editing the SPEEDBALL letters page (collect them all!), typing numerous PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL scripts for Carl Potts.
Marvel freelance credits (present): Can I get back to you on this one?
My place of birth is: Providence, Rhode Island.

People who knew me in high school thought I was: My brother Jody.

Quote of the Month

"Just in time! I couldn't have taken another panel of this unrequited love bull!"

-Rumbo
POWER PACHYDERMS #1

ITEM: We Marvelites just can't sit still! Case in point: just last month in this space we told you about our brand-spanking-new Editorial Administration Pool members. Well, Mystical Marie Javins has gone and gotten promoted since then! Yup, the upwardly mobile Ms. J is now Marvelous Margaret Clark's assistant editor! Congrats, Marie!

Filling the void is Delightful Dawn Heermance, who will serve as secretary to Magnanimous Mark Gruenwald and Adventurous Archie Goodwin. Welcome, Dawn!

ITEM: And speaking of mobility, things have been kind of crazy--okay, especially crazy--here at Mighty Marvel the past few weeks. We've been playing that madcap corporate game known as "Musical Offices"! Ready to play, kids?

Margaret Clark moved to Carl Potts's office, who moved to Archie Goodwin's office, who

moved to Sid Jacobson's office, who moved to Don Perlin's office, found himself and his art-correcting Raiders way off in the southwest corner of the 10th floor, next to John Romita Sr., who switched offices with Bobbie Chazel Whew!

If you think that sounds confusing, True Believer, you're right! In fact, if we had a nickel for every time someone went to the wrong office around here, we could probably afford to send out our comics for free!

ITEM: The Marvel family got a little bigger recently, as MOON KNIGHT penciler Sal Velluto and his wife Sharon welcomed their first child into this big, brassy world; Alexander Mario Velluto was born March 28. Congratulations to the new parents, and a hearty hello to Alexander, the lucky little devil! After all, how many kids can say, "My dad works for Marvel Comics"?

My hobbies are: Working out (I bench press way more than bulpenner Harry Candekario), jogging, playing with Domino my cat, reading all kinds of novels, and drawing all the time.
My pet peeves are: People with maids (till I get one), compressed air cans when manned by Dwight Coyne, all the extra furniture that Don packs in our office, and Lynda Evans's hair.
My favorite performers are: Tom Hanks, Glenn Close, Bette Midler, Jane the Monitor, Tracy Ullman, the entire cast of *Lost in Space*, my brother Peiry as the entire cast of *Lost in Space*, and of course Lindsay Wagner.
The last good books I read were: *I Was a Teenage Couch Potato* by Steven Scott Wilson, and *Do-It-Yourself Home Repairs* by John Steinmetz.
The last good movie I saw was: In a crowded theater, with a butter-soaked floor, and some guy behind me passed out, I think he was diabetic.
If they were making a movie of my life, I'd like to see my part played by: Me! I've been studying the part for years.
My oddest habit is: *Days of Our Lives*, *General Hospital*, *Dynasty*...
My greatest accomplishment outside the comics field is: Graduating from the Swedish Institute and passing the New York state boards for a license in massage therapy.
The reason I got into comics was: Something about re-shaping the minds and ideas of our nation's youth to ensure future prosperity. (And I wanted to bump Jim DiGiovanna's Pro File off the Bulpen Bulletins page!)

The biggest influences on my work include: Klaus Janson, George Perez, Christopher Ivy, Tom DeFalco, Don Daley, and my dad.

The single work of which I am most proud is: My lovely wife Catherine and our two children, Anthony (2) and Elizabeth (1)...(Just seeing if you were paying attention.)

My greatest unfulfilled ambition in the comics field is: Going to be fulfilled.

The worst part of my job is: Always missing lunch with Chris L., Chris A., and Mindy.

When nobody's looking I like to: Talk in sign language, but no one seems to hear me.

The one thing I really want the world to know about me is: I've always believed you can have anything in life as long as you want it badly enough and work hard enough to get it.



WITNESS, THEN HOW THE UN-GRATEFUL DEVIANTS FIRED THEIR MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS INEFFETUALLY AT THE MOTHER-SHIP OF THEIR OWN CREATORS...



...WHILE IN THE PALACE OF LEMURIA'S EMPEROR, TWO... WOULD-BE RULERS OF THE ENTIRE WORLD STRUGGLED OVER POSSESSIONS OF THE SERPENT CROWN...

...LIKE TWO UNRULY CHILDREN SQUABBLING OVER A TUG-OF-WAR...



...AND IN ATLANTIS A HERO PERISHED, CALLING OUT TO HIS GODS...

...AS HIS OWN PALACE AND KINGDOM TOPPLED ABOUT HIM...



...THE CELESTIALS WITNESSED IT ALL, THIS WORLD FALLEN INTO CHAOS--

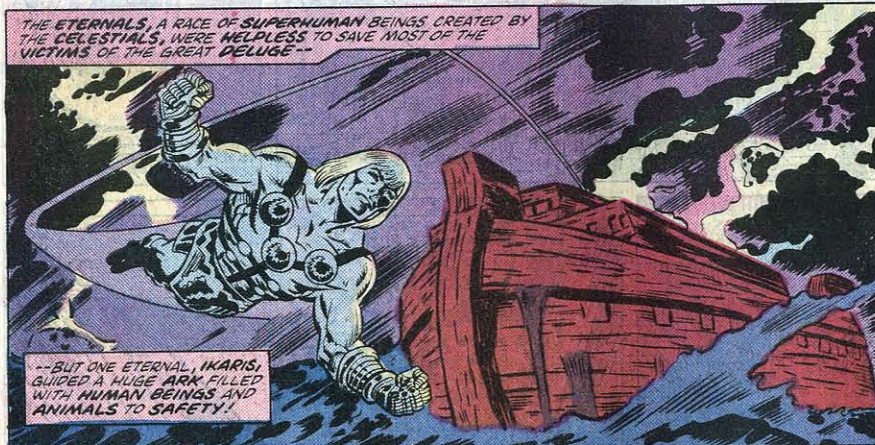


--AND THEY DELIVERED THEIR JUDGMENT!

A CELESTIAL WEAPON UNLEASHED AN EXPLOSION SUCH AS HUMANITY HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE OR HAS SEEN SINCE--

--SO POWERFUL THAT IT ROCKED THE ENTIRE PLANET--

--PLUNGING IT INTO THE WORLDWIDE DISASTER KNOWN AS THE GREAT CATAclysm!



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